

BRIEFS

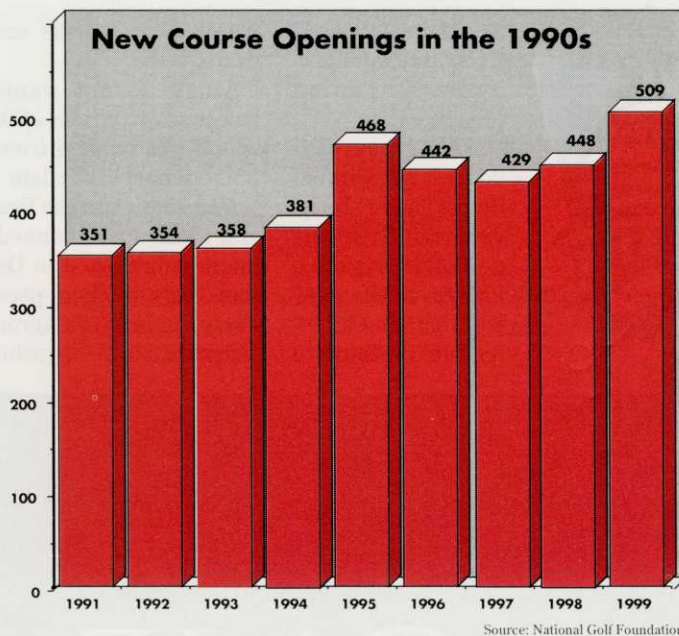
BLOOMINGTON, Ind. —The Indiana University administration has been in talks since September with the private developer Indiana Club LLC to lease land for the construction of a championship course that would be home to the golf team, a private club of 2,400 members and limited public play. The course would be located near Griffy Lake. Men's Golf Coach Mike Mayer said the current course, on which an estimated 40,000 rounds are played a year, has reached its saturation point.

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MIAMI — Greens To You, Inc. has acquired Costa Greens Golf Club located near Doral. Plans are in progress for adding \$1 million of improvements to this daily-fee facility, including new cart paths and sand bunkers, extensive tree pruning, new maintenance equipment and renovations to the irrigation system, clubhouse, pro shop and restaurant.

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MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. — Tide-water Golf Club here has completed its three-month renovation and reopened for public play Jan. 15. The greens were planted with A-1, an improved variety of bentgrass that better tolerates the Southeastern climate.



New courses open at record pace

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in planning.

As the golf industry entered the 1990s the thought of 300 courses opening in one year was extraordinary. But when 351 opened in 1991 that started a momentum that accelerated through the decade. The biggest jump occurred between 1994, when 381 new courses opened, and 1995 when the figure rocketed to 468.

Asked to explain the phenomenon, American Society of Golf Course Architects President John LaFoy said: "Regardless of what any of the golf pundits say, what it boils down to is that people feel they need more golf courses. They are building according to

demand. That's the only thing that makes any sense to me.

"There is demand being met, especially for affordable and accessible courses. You've seen a shift in the type of course being built and who they're being built for."

Richard Singer, who as director of consulting at the NGF has spent the last few months studying the strategic perspectives of golf into 2010, predicted changes and warned: "We need to be ready as an industry to react to those changes. We have found that supply is not a constant thing."

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The Pete Dye course at the PGA at The Reserve in Port St. Lucie, Fla. is one of a record number of new course openings in 1999.

Photo by Rolling Greens Photography/Ken May

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